

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents background of study, statement of problems, objective of study, significance of study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

### **1.1 Background of Study**

Language is the tool to express ideas and feelings. It is crucial as the tool of communication among society. It can be used to transmit ideas, opinions, or points of view about either abstract or concrete things, not only concerning events that occur in the present time, but also predictions of what will ensue in the future. As stated by Mayer (2009:17) the language is the main feature for someone to deliver either a piece of information or demand requested to the others especially in the social interaction.

As the tool for interaction, languages are experiencing changes along the way civilization develops. Since languages can be conveyed through writings and society always being curious and responsive to things that happening around them, people started to create mass media, which was coined with the creation of print media that is notable for being the first example of mass media, as source of information on a variety of important issues. One of the mass media that is still being the favorite source of information among society is newspaper.

A newspaper is a publication containing a wide variety of materials including news, information, and advertising. Typically, there are several

sections that can be found on it, such as news articles, headlines, business, financial, entertainment, sport, obituary, advertisement, culture, and editorial.

Editorial is an article in a newspaper that expresses the editor's opinion on a subject of particular interest at the present time (Cambridge Advanced Learners' Dictionary, 2008). It is a kind of the discourse where an important issue being discussed from the editor's point of view. As an important discourse, it should contain messages that can be received completely by the readers. It means that all the messages are interesting and suggestive enough to convince readers about the content of topical issues being discussed in the discourse. Since written texts are different from spoken interaction, to compile written text, a writer has to compose a well-formed text so that the readers can understand it easily. Tsareva (2010 : 7) stated that the grammatical units such as words, clauses, and sentences link the part of a sentence or a clause and are called to be structural. In other words, a text is considered to be well-formed or structural one when the clause and sentences within it link one to another. A well-formed text will be created if the texts are mutually relevant to each other. Taboada (2004: 156) stated that a text is a structural unit that has different elements from a sentence. It means that the properties which connecting the parts of a text together are not similar with those holding a sentence together. Cohesion is one of these properties that plays important role in building connections among parts of text.

According to Tanskanen (2006: 7), cohesion refers to the connections between parts of text established by markers which are known as

grammatical and lexical elements. In other words, cohesion is the ties or connections that exist within a text.

Halliday and Hasan (in Tanskanen, 2006: 15) stated that there are two types of cohesion, namely: *grammatical* cohesion and *lexical* cohesion. In grammatical cohesion, the relationship between and within a text is signaled by means of grammatical elements. This includes *reference*, *substitution*, *ellipsis*, and *conjunction*. Meanwhile, lexical cohesion is signaled by means of lexical element or vocabularies. It consists of *reiteration (repetition, synonymy etc)* and *collocation (co-occurrence of lexical items)*.

Due to these reasons, the writer is interested in observing the grammatical and lexical cohesion on the Editorials page in The Jakarta Post and presenting it as a paper study about linguistic studies that is aimed to fulfill the thesis. By this research, cohesion devices including grammatical and lexical aspects can be identified and then it can be figured out that how much those aspects contribute to the readability of the discourses.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problems**

Based on the background of the study above, this study is conducted to figure out the answers of some problems related to the discussion above. The statement of problems can be defined as follow:

1. What are the grammatical cohesion devices found on the Editorials in “The Jakarta Post?”
2. What are the lexical cohesion devices found on the Editorials in “The Jakarta Post?”

### **1.3 Objectives of Study**

Concerning the problems stated above, the objectives of this study are to:

1. Identify the grammatical cohesion on the Editorials in The Jakarta Post.
2. Identify the lexical cohesion on the Editorials in The Jakarta Post.

### **1.4 Significance of Study**

By conducting this study, there are some valuable information which are expected to be obtained by:

1. Students of English Department

The findings will benefit students in obtaining theories about grammatical cohesion (reference, substitution, ellipsis and conjunction) and lexical cohesion (reiteration and collocation). Moreover, it is expected that the findings provide information of how cohesion devices can be identified from texts.

2. Teachers of English Department

The findings provide reliable theories of grammatical and lexical cohesion for teachers of English Department in teaching linguistics, reading, or writing subject.

3. Further Researchers

The findings accommodate valuable information both theoretical and practical analysis of cohesive devices used in Editorial segment of newspaper.

Furthermore, they also can be used as reliable data in conducting a further study of cohesive devices in other kinds of text.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

In this research, the writer only focuses on the cohesive devices on The Jakarta Post official website, *thejakartapost.com* particularly on the segment “Editorials” entitled “A Return to Tolerance”, an article which describes the religious discrimination in certain places in Indonesia and the government’s plans to overcome it (posted on November 7, 2014) and “City’s Red Marks”, an article criticizes several governmental impediments in budgetary arrangement on vital projects in Jakarta (posted on November 8, 2014). The cohesive devices are divided into two which are grammatical and lexical cohesive devices. The grammatical cohesive devices include reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction, while for the lexical cohesive devices include reiteration and collocation. The limitation of this study is only the selected editorials from the panel “Editor’s Choice” entitled “A Return to Tolerance” and “City’s Red Marks”.

### **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

In order to avoid misunderstanding about the terms which are used in this study, the researcher defines the key terms used in this study as follows:

1. *Grammatical Cohesion* is the way that grammatical features are attached together across the sentence boundaries. It consists of reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction (Halliday and Hasan, 1976).

2. *Lexical Cohesion* is the way aspect of vocabulary link parts of texts together. It contains reiterations and collocation (Halliday and Hasan, 1976).
3. Editorial is an article in a newspaper that expresses the editor's opinion on a subject of particular interest at the present time (Cambridge Advanced Learners' Dictionary, 2008)
4. *Thejakartapost.com* is the extension of The Jakarta Post daily newspaper. As the name suggests, it also offers breaking news and a wealth of information on Indonesia. By providing up-to-date, in-depth accurate information and analyses, *thejakartapost.com* aspires to be a one-stop reference point on Indonesia that will serve both local and international audiences (<http://www.thejakartapost.com/about>).

